

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.(Original) A method of treating a proliferative disease comprising administering to an individual in need thereof an effective amount of a SIRT1 inhibitor.

2.(Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the disease is cancer.

3.(Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein the cancer is a colorectal carcinoma.

4.(Original) An in vitro method of inducing apoptosis in a cell comprising administering a SIRT1 inhibitor to said cell.

5.(Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the cell lacks at least one of functional p53, Bax and PUMA protein.

6.(Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4 ~~or claim 5~~ wherein the cell is a tumour cell.

7.(Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the SIRT1 inhibitor is a siRNA, a dsRNA, a nucleic acid encoding such RNA, or a SIRT1 antisense RNA.

8.(Original) A SIRT1 inhibitor for use in a method of medical treatment.

9.(Original) A SIRT1 inhibitor for use according to claim 8, wherein said treatment is treatment of a proliferative disease.

10.(Currently Amended) A SIRT1 inhibitor for use according to claim 8 ~~or claim 9~~ which is a siRNA, a dsRNA, a nucleic acid encoding such RNA or a SIRT1 antisense RNA.

11.(Original) Use of a SIRT1 inhibitor in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a proliferative disease.

12. (Original) Use according to claim 11, wherein the proliferative disease is cancer.

13.(Original) Use according to claim 12, wherein the cancer is a colorectal carcinoma.

14.(Original) Use according to claim 12, wherein the cancer cells lack at least one of functional p53, Bax and protein.

15.(Currently Amended) Use according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 14~~claim 11, wherein the SIRT1 inhibitor is a siRNA, a dsRNA, a nucleic acid encoding such RNA or a SIRT1 antisense RNA.

16. (Original) A siRNA which inhibits expression of SIRT1 in a cell.

17.(Original) A siRNA according to claim 16 which comprises a contiguous sequence of 10-30bp from the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

18.(Original) A siRNA according to claim 17 which is between 19 and 22 bp in length.

19.(Original) A siRNA according to claim 18 which is 19bp in length.

20. (Original) A siRNA according to claim 19 which has the siRNA sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 11 and 12.

21. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a siRNA according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 20~~claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, wherein the SIRT1 inhibitor is a siRNA according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 20~~claim 16.

23.(Currently Amended) The use of ~~any one of claims 11 to 14~~claim 11, wherein the SIRT1 inhibitor is a siRNA according to ~~any one of claims 16 to 20~~claim 16.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a SIRT1 inhibitor for use in a method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, the method comprising:

administering a candidate compound to cultured tumour cells in vitro;
determining whether SIRT expression and/or activity is reduced in said cells; and
assaying for apoptosis of said cells.

25.(Original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the cells lack at least one of functional p53, Bax and protein.

26.(Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claim 24 or claim 25~~claim 24, further comprising the steps of administering said candidate compound to cultured normal cells in vitro and assaying for apoptosis of said cells.